

# THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

VOL. XXIII. NO. 52.

## BOARD OF TRADE

HELD A SPECIAL MEETING ON TUESDAY NIGHT.

The Water Committee's Report Received and Adopted—Recommendations Made to the Town Council—The Report Published in Full.

The Board of Trade held a well attended special meeting Tuesday night, and received and adopted the report of the special committee of five members appointed by President Sutphen to investigate the water supply question. The committee consisted of Charles R. Underwood, Edward G. Ward, Dr. R. W. Cornelison, Dr. Wm. R. Broughton and Allison Dodd. The report was read by Mr. Underwood. A supplemental report, showing the result of analyses of different water supplies, was read by Dr. Cornelison.

The report was the subject of discussion, and the members of the committee gave in detail an account of the work they had performed in reaching the conclusions set forth in the report. There were only a few votes against its adoption. The report in full is as follows:

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., April 25, 1905.  
W. P. SUTPHEN, Pres., Bloomfield, N. J.

DEAR SIR: At a meeting of the Board of Trade, held March 9, 1905, the question of a water supply for the town was discussed at some length, and you were authorized to appoint a special committee of five to investigate the matter and report thereon, such report to be submitted at a special meeting of the Board of Trade to be called by you when the committee was ready to report.

We, your committee, have made such investigation and beg to report as follows:

At the outset we desire to thank the members of the Town Council, who have given us every assistance, not only with such data as were needed to properly understand the situation, but by attending our hearings and by accompanying us in the inspection of the several plants and sources of supply. The Water Committee in particular were ever ready to give us the benefit of all documents in their possession, and such other information as they possessed.

At about the time of our appointment the Civic Union also held a meeting and appointed a committee to investigate the same subject.

We therefore deemed it expedient and advisable to work with them in gathering information necessary to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion, and did the entire work in joint committee with them.

At the very first meeting it was decided that purity of supply should be the first consideration, and we have carried out this idea in conducting our investigation.

Permanency of supply and adequate pressure for fire purposes were also given due consideration.

The price which we must pay for water is also a very important point, if our water system is to be conducted at a profit, and in considering the question this point of the situation has been given very careful attention.

We first obtained copies of the several proposals which have been submitted to the Town Council, and then proceeded to a thorough examination of each plant and each source of supply. It is needless to recite in detail the visits made to the several sources of supply and the impressions obtained therefrom. The merits of all were presented by representatives of the several companies in the best possible manner as a matter of course, and were given due consideration in arriving at a conclusion.

The analysis presented to us of one of the waters under consideration caused us considerable concern, and our next step was to procure an analysis of the Orange water, by competent authority under our direction, which would be absolutely unbiased, and in doing so we thought wise to have an additional analysis made of the Great Notch water at the same time.

With this end in view, Dr. E. E. Smith of New York, a specialist in this line of work, was employed. He came to Bloomfield, was met at the station by a member of the Civic Union Committee and one of our members, who conducted him to the several plants, where samples were obtained by him in their presence, and his report we submit herewith.

We also considered reports made by Herbert B. Baldwin of Newark and David H. Baldwin of Montclair, all of which were very useful in determining the result.

The proposition made by the Orange Water Company to furnish water at \$40 per million gallons is of course the most attractive from the standpoint of price, and this proposition has been gone over with unusual care. Their wells are situated at nearly the lowest point between West and Newark, and are sunk into the sandstone shale stratum some twenty or thirty feet below the surface of the ground, and are not, therefore, what is known as deep zone wells. This stratum probably dips from the direction of the Oranges or Bloomfield towards the wells, and in these places it is a well-known fact that the population has more than doubled since the wells were originally drilled.

The territory immediately adjacent to these wells is being rapidly built up with a fair prospect of entirely surrounding them and encroaching upon company's property in the very near future; and even as the situation now is, it hardly be considered by thoughtful men a desirable locality from which to draw water supply free from all suspicion.

The company only owns 150 acres, and even this they will have to reserve intact during the contract, but should opportunity arise they reserve the right to sell a part for residential purposes. The re-

turn shows a water of extreme hardness, and they also show more or less surface water, and therefore a chance for surface contamination.

The question of sufficient pressure for purposes has been the subject of no doubt and considerable discussion.

by members of our fire department in connection with the Orange Water Company's wells, and we were impressed with the necessity of having absolute security that such pressure should be provided. Col. Olcott for the company promised that if awarded the contract the company would insert a provision therein guaranteeing sufficient pressure, and stated that, if necessary required, they would construct an auxiliary main from the wells to the centre of Bloomfield. This would necessitate the laying of from one to two miles of 12-inch pipe at a cost of \$7,000 to \$15,000, an amount so large compared with the value of the contract that we fear vexatious contention would arise about the enforcement of this clause in a contract. So with these reasons, and with our views as to the probable quality of the water, supported by expert analysis, we felt compelled to eliminate the Orange Water Company's proposal from further consideration.

The Great Notch proposition, to furnish us water at \$49 per million gallons for twenty years, is next to be considered from the standpoint of price. Their wells are situated in the vicinity of Great Notch, where the company claims to control some 80 acres of land, and the water is of the best quality, as indicated by analysis obtained and herewith presented.

The three wells now in existence have been producing a moderate supply of water without pumping for five or six years, and have shown no diminution during times of drought. They are from 107 to 138 feet deep, therefore making a deep zone proposition. The present elevation and with the help of tanks located above them on the side of the mountain, insures an ample pressure for first purposes.

The surrounding territory is sparsely settled farm and mountain land, and the possibility of contamination from the surface is very remote.

Still, in this proposition the question of quantity and the permanency of supply needs grave consideration. The company is incorporated, is composed of reliable New York business men of standing, with plenty of means at their disposal, and after a personal interview with them, at which they said they had faith enough in the enterprise to put about \$100,000 of their money into it, we considered it very favorably. So far the wells have reached only an experimental stage, but we are assured by engineers who have examined the territory that they think the supply will be abundant for our needs.

Turning to the question of filtered water, which, in these days of increased population is commanding attention, and being most favorably considered by municipalities generally, we have the proposal of the Montclair Water Company to furnish filtered water at \$80 per million gallons. This company is a subsidiary corporation of the East Jersey Water Company, and the supply offered is from that company's filtering plant at Little Falls.

There is no question as to the quality of the water offered, and the desirability of using filtered water for private consumption is becoming general, where it is possible to obtain it.

Statistics showing the decrease in the death rate from typhoid, conclusively prove that it is to the advantage of any municipality to use filtered water, if it can be obtained at a price that will warrant using it.

Quality is there, permanency of supply is there, pressure is there, all beyond peradventure, but \$80 per million gallons is prohibitive if we are to conduct our water plant without loss, at prevailing distribution rates, and however much we may desire filtered water, we cannot use it at a loss.

A large percentage of the water which we must pay for will be used for flushing our sewers, sprinkling our streets and extinguishing fires, all of which must be paid for by the earnings from water used by the private consumer.

All things considered, concession in price should be made, and we are informed that the company will make a reasonable price for a twenty-year contract.

Your committee, therefore, taking all these facts into consideration, and after giving their best attention and thought to the question before them, have unanimously themselves and unanimously in joint meeting with the committee of the Civic Union, passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That after careful study and investigation, and discussion of what is the most favorable source of water supply for the town, it is the unanimous conclusion of the committee that the Town Council be requested to offer \$65 per million gallons for a suitable contract extending twenty years to the Montclair Water Company, and in case said company declines to accept the offer, a twenty-year contract be made with the Great Notch Water Company at their own price, namely, \$49 per million gallons, and that in the contract the proposed purchase clause be incorporated therein."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

**Death of John Gee.**  
John Gee, a well-known and esteemed resident of this town, died at his home 38 Willow street, Monday morning after a severe illness of several weeks' duration. He had been in poor health for several years.

Mr. Gee was fifty-nine years of age. He was born in England and came to this country when a boy. He had resided in Watseessing nearly half a century. When a boy he was employed by the late John Omberson, and subsequently learned the iron moulding trade. He is survived by a widow and three daughters, the Misses Mary and Julia Gee and Mrs. M. Lynch. The funeral service took place Thursday morning in the Church of the Sacred Heart.

**Musical Instruction.**  
Mrs. Helen Clark Hummel, graduate of Stern's Conservatory, Berlin, will receive pupils in piano and singing. 68 Park Avenue, Bloomfield, N. J.—Add.

Seed potatoes and fertilizers at Fronaple Bros.—Add.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1905

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## TOWN COUNCIL

HELD AN ADJOURNED MEETING THURSDAY NIGHT.

Received Reports from Board of Trade and Civic Union—No Action Taken in the Matter of a Water Contract—Matter May be Settled Monday Night.

The Town Council held an adjourned meeting Thursday night and received the resolutions adopted at meetings of the Board of Trade and Civic Union, and then adjourned.

The Councilmen were in conference in the Town Clerk's office upwards of an hour. Charles R. Underwood and Dr. R. W. Cornelison, the respective chairmen of the Board of Trade and Civic Union committees, were called into the conference for a short time.

A number of spectators were in the Council room expecting that when the Councilmen came out of the conference it would be with a definite plan in regard to the water contract, but the expectant ones were doomed to disappointment.

The Council will meet in regular session next Monday night, when it is possible, but not at all certain, that the water contract will be awarded.

Many rumors are afloat as to what took place at the conference Thursday night, but as none of the talk is official, no importance can be attached to it beyond the fact that the Councilmen are still divided in their opinion as to the terms of a contract.

The present contract expires Monday at noon. The Montclair Water Company has generously offered a six-month extension of the contract. After Monday the acceptance of the gratuity will be in force, but six months will speedily roll by, and there is a danger that unless the Council shall take prompt action on some one of the propositions now before it, the town may lose some of the advantages now possessed. The work of the Board of Trade and Civic Union committees has resulted in securing from the Montclair Water Company the following terms: A ten-year contract at the present price of \$50 per million gallons; for fifteen years \$75, and for twenty years \$70. If the last of these propositions is eventually made the basis of the contract, a saving of \$3,000 per annum in the cost of water will result. If a contract is contemplated with the Great Notch Water Company it is obvious that immediate action must be taken in order that the company may have time to construct a water works.

Recent options secured on property in the vicinity of the Great Notch Water Company's field of operations indicate almost certainly that there is going to be some litigation before the company gets its works in operation if it secures the contract, and that is another reason why there should be no delay in making the contract, particularly if it is going to the Great Notch Water Company. The men who are going to exploit this company are going to do so with the hope in view that this town will purchase the land and the buildings and machinery of the company.

**Beresford-Adams.**  
A fashionable wedding took place at the residence of Edwin W. Adams, 207 Ridgewood avenue, Glen Ridge, Tuesday night. The bride was Miss Jessie Adams, a niece of Mr. Adams, and the groom Robert Francis Beresford, of Washington. Rev. Dr. Rudd, of Dedham, Mass., officiated. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, wore a gown of white muslin, trimmed with duchesse lace. The bridal veil was fastened with orange blossoms and she carried a shower bouquet of lilies of the valley. Miss Eddie Hart, of Philadelphia, as maid of honor, wore pink crepe de chine, and carried pink sweet peas. George Remy, of Washington, was the best man.

A reception followed the ceremony. The color scheme was pink, the flowers used in the decoration being tulips, roses and azaleas. Mr. and Mrs. Beresford will reside in Washington. The bride formerly lived on Scotland road, South Orange, and is prominent socially. The groom is a graduate of Princeton University and is a distant relative of Admiral Beresford, of the English navy. Mr. Beresford is in the government service and is one of the architects of the new building adjoining the Washington Capitol, which will contain offices for members of the House of Representatives.

**Basket-Ball.**  
On Friday evening the Watseessing basket-ball team will play its last game of the season against a crack team at Lyceum hall for the benefit of the Lyceum base-ball team. Manager Davis has completed elaborate plans for this game and is confident that when the numerous friends and admirers of both the Watseessing basket-ball team and the Lyceum base-ball team join forces, the result will be the banner crowd of the season. The drawing for the dress suit case and umbrella will be held on the same evening.

## CIVIC UNION

Received and Adopted Water Committee Report Wednesday Night—Reasons Given in Support of a Twenty Year Contract—Time Limit for an Answer from the Montclair Water Company in the Report.

The Civic Union held a special meeting Wednesday night in Essex County Building and Loan Hall to hear the report of the committee of five members appointed to investigate the water supply question. The committee consisted of Charles R. Underwood, Edward G. Ward, Dr. R. W. Cornelison, Dr. Wm. R. Broughton and Allison Dodd. The report was read by Mr. Underwood. A supplemental report, showing the result of analyses of different water supplies, was read by Dr. Cornelison.

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